Coal deposits in Arunachal Pradesh

2340. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh is rich in coal deposits;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted to find out the quantum and quality of coal available in the area; and

(c) what efforts are being made for its exploration and by when the work is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) Based on exploration work carried out by Geological Survey of India and Mineral Exploration Corporation, total reserves of 90.23 million tonnes have been established in Namchik-Namphuk and Miao Bum areas of Changlang District in Arunachal Pradesh. The coals are of good quality coking coal with low ash but having high sulphur content.

Decline in export of Shellac

2341. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an unprecendented decline in the export of the shellac has adversely affected the lives of nearly 15 lakh tribals of Chhotanagpur, Palamau and Garhwa;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons for the decline;

(c) whether it is also a fact that defective working system of Shellac Export Promotion Council is one of the reasons for decline; and

(d) if so, what corrective and other measures are proposed to be taken to increase the export of shellac?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The export of shellac during the last two years has increased, as given below:—

Year	Value (Rs. crores)
1990-91	17.17
1991-92	27.93
1992-93 (Apr. '92-Jan. '93)	36.88

With the increase in the value of the export, the lac growers are receiving a high price for their produce.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Farmers raid on seed firm in Bangalore

2342. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers raid on US seed firm in Bangalore has anything to do with the Dunkel proposals;

(b) whether the firm is patenting plants and seeds; and

(c) if so, what are the details of patents made by the firm?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Government have received a report